City of The Highlands, Kansas

COUNCIL MEETING Minutes

March 14th, 2019, 6:00 PM Held at Nickerson City Hall, Nickerson, Ks

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1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Penny called the meeting to order on March 14th, 2019 at 6:00 P.M.
2. **ROLL CALL:** Ken Nuss, Bonnie Teel, Butch Neel, Dwight Gehring (Mark Kerschen absent)
3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE AMERICAN FLAG:** Led by Mo Penny
4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**: Minutes from 02/28/2019 – Butch Neel motion to approve. Bonnie Teel second. Passed 4-0.
5. **REQUESTS/PRESENTATIONS**

* Jason Hartman from the Kansas Forestry Service had earlier in the day, toured the City and looked at the potential for fire hazard. Mr. Hartman offered some suggestions. Suggested Firewise Site recognition as a potential for grant money. Kansas is part of the western "Firewise" states. Applications are due in early August 2019 for consideration of grant money in 2020.
* Cleaning up undeveloped lots might be done by financial incentives to owners.
* Mr. Hartman would be willing to return for town hall meeting.

1. **BUSINESS :**

1. Report on Charter Ordinances 05 and 06 (court fees and contracted judicial personnel – Both ordinances have been published twice and unless a petition is filed against them, will be enacted in 61 days. No Action required.
2. Report on Insurance certificate - Changes were made and KFSA has viewed them saying they are filled out properly to protect the City. No Action required.
3. Discussion – The Right of Way ordinance was enacted in preparation for utility and franchise activities. Bonnie Teel motion to continue with the city attorney in preparing a permit application for the fiber optic internet proposal from Crazy Communications. Butch Neel second. Passed 4-0.
4. New ordinances are required for city planning and for a zoning appeals board. Butch Neel motion to approve Ordinances No. 08 and No. 09, present to city attorney and have published. Bonnie Teel second. Passed 4-0
5. New ordinances are required for equipment reserve funds and for capital improvement reserve funds. Dwight Gehring motion to approve Ordinances No. 10 and No. 11, present to city attorney and have published. Ken Nuss second. Passed 4-0
6. Discussion preparation of 2020 budget. Suggested that a three year budget plan be done. May 2nd is proposed to be a workshop. CC will prepare a special meeting notice. Concensus.
7. Report on Permits – Mayor Penny presented Grieg Sims application for secondary Structure. A survey has been done in order to re-plat lot number 2 of the Paganica Peaks No 1, replat of block D to revise the front setback from 40 feet to 20 feet. The application and re-plat of the re-plat looks to be what is necessary to legally file with the Reno County Records and Deeds. Butch Neel motion to approve the request for variance from City Ordinance 2018-02 to allow the 20 feet front SB per the new replat being done by Garber Surveying, and to also approve the permit based on that variance. Ken Nuss second. Passed 3-1. (NO) Bonnie Teel (YES) Kenn Nuss, Butch Neel, Dwight Gehring.

Complaint voiced by clerk that more time should be given to the Council prior to asking for vote on permits. No Action – already part of 2018-02 provisions.

1. Report on snow removal & mowing – people volunteering time and equipment should be recording that time and cost of equipment so a budget could be set. Clerk asked to provide forms.
2. Reimbursements for snow removal - tabled
3. Town Hall Meeting discussion – Schedule for June 20th if the Crazy Horse clubhouse is available.

A workshop to prepare an agenda is proposed for April 4th. Consensus.

1. AZRC members need to be nominated – tabled to have time to talk to potential volunteers.
2. Board of Zoning Appeals members need to be nominated – tabled to have time to talk to potential volunteers.
3. Discussion on sign for city entrance stating building permits required. Bonnie Teel motion to allow Butch Neel to purchase sign at a cost of up to $200 . Ken Nuss second. Passed 4-0
   1. **ADJOURNMENT**:

Dwight Gehring motion to adjourn meeting. Butch Neel second. Passed 4-0